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GENERAL HEADQUARTERS  
SUPREME COMMANDER FOR THE ALLIED POWERS

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE SECTION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

For Period  
30 December 1945  
to  
5 January 1946

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MEDICAL  
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WEEKLY BULLETIN

SECTION I

WELFARE

Welfare Administration

Pursuant to a memorandum issued by this Headquarters last month, AG 044 (8 Dec 45) Subject: "Relief and Welfare Plans", the Imperial Japanese Government submitted a plan during the week. The plan proposes the enactment of a new law which would integrate welfare and relief activities now conducted as separate categories of assistance under the Relief Law for the Poor and Disabled (Law #49, 1929), Law for the Protection of Mothers and Poor Children (Law #19, 1937), War Casualties and Damages Protection Law (Law #71, 1942) and related measures.

Similarly the plan proposes a new non-governmental agency or association to assume the relief activities of such present organizations as the Association of Relief for War Refugees, Association of Relief for the Nationals Abroad, and Association of Relief for Veterans.

The Japanese Government has often organized quasi-public agencies or associations, subsidized from governmental funds, as an expedient in implementing relief and welfare administration. Japanese officials explain this action as necessary to circumvent governmental restrictions on personnel, use of funds and other limitations.

This Section has been studying the subsidy program of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs because a large percentage of relief expenditures are represented by subsidies to these quasi-governmental associations. One of the principles of proper public welfare administration requires an



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integrated program, responsibility for administration of which lies with the public agency. As further detailed plans are submitted by the Ministry, it is proposed to analyze them in conjunction with the Government Section of this Headquarters.

Relief

The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs estimates the following number of persons in need of relief in Japan.

<u>Category of Need</u>	<u>Number</u>
Unemployable	760,000
Unemployed	4,340,000
Needy repatriates	860,000
Others	<u>2,040,000</u>
Total	8,000,000

During the week a communication was sent Occupation Force Commanders requesting a check be made of the Japanese inventory of Army-Navy stocks held for relief purposes and that they supervise the local Japanese relief distribution. Additionally they were requested to submit a plan for assuming direct relief distribution responsibility should the Japanese system break down.

SECTION II

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

General

Arrangements have been completed for a meeting of the Prefectural Health Officers (twelve prefectures in the Tokyo region) at the Institute of Public Health on 7 January, for discussion of typhus, venereal disease and other communicable disease problems. Meetings arranged on January 15, 24 and 28 at Yamagata, Kyoto and Fukuoka, respectively for similar discussions.



Data on organization and functions of the Bureau for Control of Infectious Diseases (Japanese Ministry of Health) obtained in conference with the Bureau Chief. Data will be incorporated in a summary report of a study covering all Ministry of Health services.

#### Venereal Disease Control

From 18 to 29 December 1945, the venereal disease control officer of this Headquarters, made a survey of venereal disease control activities among the Japanese in Hokkaido and Aomori prefectures. Venereal disease rates among the Occupational Forces in these areas have been generally lower than the average for the Eighth Army. There was very little evidence of effective efforts at control found in the Japanese communities visited. Venereal disease prevalence among groups of women surveyed by acceptable methods have shown almost universal infection. Serious deficiencies in trainer personnel, facilities and effective drugs were found. The reporting of venereal disease to the Ministry of Health and Welfare is in process of establishment.

The demonstration examination-treatment program in Tokyo has been fully instituted with the completion of a course of training in laboratory methods under the auspices of the Government Institute for Infectious Diseases. Sixteen of the 46 prefectures were reporting venereal disease cases to the Ministry of Health and Welfare as of the week ending 22 December 1945.

#### Sanitary Engineering Activities

1. Water Supplies. Direct supervision of public water supplies in the Tokyo-Kawasaki-Yokohama area by Army personnel has been recommended by the water supply consultant, ASCOM-C. Proposed organization would supervise operation and maintenance of water supplies, treatment plants, distribution systems and laboratories. The quality of water would be improved to meet Army standards. Inspections for cross-connection and collection of samples would be made by military personnel. Checks on --(Continued on page 4)



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laboratory analyses would be made regularly by Army laboratories. The plan is comprehensive and would result in the distribution of a safe potable water according to U. S. standards. Principle difficulty would be in obtaining suitably trained, experienced personnel from military sources.

It is reported from Hokkaido that all public water supplies are considered unsafe for direct consumption of occupational forces except at Muroran where engineers are treating the water at the source. Supply at Otaru is being rationed, but the situation is not considered unusual.

2. Waste Disposal. Certain supplies for repair of the sewage treatment plant equipment were reported as unobtainable at the present time, by Mr. Harada, Tokyo Sewerage Engineer, and Mr. Kawabata, Health Maintenance Section, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. The problem was referred to the local Military Government Sections who are aiding in the procurement of supplies which are deemed essential for the maintenance of plants.

Progress is now being made in restoring Tokyo sewage treatment plants to their prewar condition. Reports from other cities are due next week.

Quarantine Activities

The week ending Saturday, 5 January 1946, showed 62,622 persons passing through quarantine, i.e., 4,327 from S. Korea, 5,780 from Philippine Islands, 20,220 from Pacific Ocean area, 4,258 Ryukyans, 35,655 from China, 582 from Formosa and 1,800 from Hong Kong.

One case of smallpox was diagnosed at Horio Barracks (near Sasebo) in a Korean repatriate. No case of quarantinable disease was reported as having passed through quarantine.

Nutrition Service Activities

During the period 27 December to 4 January, the nutrition consultant



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made a field trip to Nagoya, Osaka, Kure, Hiroshima, Fukuoka and Nagasaki. The purpose of this trip was to visit the cities and surrounding rural areas in Japan that are under consideration as sites for the performance of nutrition surveys. At each of these cities the Military Government authorities were contacted and attempts were made to meet with the Japanese prefectural and city public health personnel. The purposes of the methods to be employed in the surveys were discussed with all groups contacted.

In no case did any of the Military Government authorities report on important nutrition problems in their areas. All were very receptive to the plans for the nutrition surveys. From observations made on this trip, it is believed that Nagoya, Osaka, Kure and Fukuoka and rural areas adjacent to these cities are the proper sites for the forthcoming nutrition surveys.

### Laboratory Activities

A summarizing report was prepared on the production of biologicals in Japanese laboratories with recommendations for facilitating increases in production levels of certain crucial items. Conferences were held on the problem of supervision of drugs and pharmaceuticals and on measures needed to ensure their conformity with the minimum standards of purity and effectiveness.

## SECTION III

### ADMINISTRATION OF HOSPITALS

Former Japanese Army, Navy and Veterans Hospitals are now included in the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs weekly civilian hospital strength report. Since 30 November, for 37 prefectures reporting the establishment of new hospitals, reconstruction of those damaged by air-raids and other



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transfer of military hospitals, has resulted in an increase of 86 hospitals with 38,488 beds, with a continued decrease in the number of occupied beds.

SECTION IV

NURSING AFFAIRS

Reports from Japanese

Copy of Regulation of Japan Public Health Nurses Association, April 25, 1945 (Japanese and English). The purpose of this regulation is to cultivate higher standards for nursing and to cooperate with the Health Policy of Japan. The Public Health Nurses Association of the Prefecture becomes an active member of the National Association. "The Vice-Presidents are the people who have the post of the director for Health Division in the Health Bureau of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, the director of National Health Insurance and the Public Health Nurses who are recommended by the Councillors Meeting." "The terms of the Officers are two years" but they may be reappointed. The general meeting is opened once a year. "The membership fee is decided according to the number of Public Health Nurses of each Public Health Nurses Association at the end of every February." "The by-laws which are considered necessary are established by the President."

Translations are being done of regulation received regarding nurses.

SECTION V

VETERINARY AFFAIRS

Reports from Japanese

The Veterinary Laboratory Section, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, has submitted the following 1946 production estimate of veterinary biologicals:



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Serums

Anti-anthrax	800,000 cc
Anti-blackleg	10,000 cc
Anti-hog cholera	300,000 cc
Anti-swine crysipelas	80,000 cc
Anti-tetanus	1,000,000 cc
Anti-fowl cholera	50,000 cc
Anti-canine distemper	5,000 cc
Anti-strangles	1,200,000 cc
Anti-fowl diphtheria	400,000 cc
Anti-equine infectious abortion	300,000 cc

Vaccines

Rabies	50,000 cc
Anthrax (spore)	36,000 cc
Blackleg	700,000 cc
Hog cholera	1,500,000 cc

Diagnostic Agents

Mallein	1,000 cc
Tuberculin	60,000 cc

Korean Report

The Surgeon's Office, XXIV Corps, submitted the following report on Korean veterinary affairs:

1. The activation of a Veterinary Section in Military Government Headquarters, Bureau of Public Health and Welfare, for the purpose of supervising Korean veterinary affairs.
2. The assignment of Veterinary Officers to key positions.
3. The procurement and organization of Korean veterinary personnel for the purpose of controlling animal diseases and conducting a meat and dairy inspection service.
4. The presence of Rhinderpest in the Russian occupied zone north of latitude 38 degrees and the launching of a project to immunize all cattle against this disease in a belt 10 miles wide, south of that latitude.

SECTION VI

DENTAL AFFAIRS

No report.

SECTION VII

SUPPLY

A directive was prepared for transmittal to the Imperial Japanese Government concerning the need for increasing production of medical supplies.



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Particular attention was directed to the fact that production quotas for biological products were not being met.

A list of medical books and periodicals required by the Japanese for educational purposes was forwarded to C.I. and E. Section with a request that steps be taken to secure these publications for distribution by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, under the supervision of this Section.

Representatives of Public Health and Welfare Section attended a conference held by E. and S. S. on the subject of "Japanese Imports". The import program as now set up provides for 3,000 metric tons of raw materials for manufacture of medical supplies during 1946.

Upon recommendation of the Typhus Commission, a request was submitted for mixing of test samples of DDT with Japanese stocks of talc and pyrophyllite. Certain stocks of talc and pyrophyllite which have been located in Japan are to be ear-marked for possible use in mixing DDT, provided test samples prove satisfactory.

A conference was held with representatives of Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Tokyo Medicine Control and Prefectural offices. The Japanese officials were informed that increased emphasis must be placed on the distribution of supplies seized from the Japanese Armed Forces and turned over to the Home Ministry for civilian use. It was pointed out that several operating procedures now being employed in connection with transfer of supplies from the Yoga Depot could be improved. Instructions were given that supplies would not be removed from the depot until covered storage space was available in Tokyo. Efforts will be made to inventory items at Yoga and then make direct distribution to using agencies.

Authorization was granted for transfer of Japanese military narcotic stocks from the Fifth Fleet to the 29th Medical Depot, Eighth Army, Yokohama,



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for custody and further disposition as determined by this Headquarters.

An inspection trip was made to the 29th Medical Depot where approximately thirty carloads of Japanese military narcotics and seized civilian stocks of crude and semi-processed narcotics are being concentrated. A complete inventory of these narcotics will be undertaken at an early date.

SECTION VIII

LEGAL

A discussion was held with representatives of the Ministry of Finance at which time terms of a memorandum regarding the control of poisonous beverages were discussed and interpreted.

Conferences were held with section chiefs of the Minister's Office and Bureau for Physique, Health Ministry, on organization, functions and personnel of their sections.

Translations were procured of a regulation regarding ceiling prices on certain drugs.

SECTION IX

DIRECTIVES TO JAPANESE GOVERNMENT

The following memoranda to the Imperial Japanese Government originated in this Section:

1. Japanese Military and Naval Medical Supplies Received by Home Ministry from Occupation Forces, AG 440 (20 Dec 45)PH. This memorandum again calls attention to the central Japanese government, their lethargy in distributing army and navy medical supplies. It directs prefectural officials take vigorous action in distributing these supplies to physicians and hospitals.
2. Custody and Distribution of Japanese Military Medicinal Narcotic Stocks, AG 441.1 (4 Dec 45)PH. Directs the Japanese Government to designate



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eight wholesale drug firms to receive and distribute narcotics which SCAP will turn back to the Japanese. These drug firms will act as narcotic distributors to civilian institutions.

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